

REMARKS

Claims 1-11 are all the claims pending in the application. Reconsideration of the application and allowance of all claims are requested.

The rejection of claims 1, 7 and 11 for anticipation by Link is traversed. Claim 1 requires that the semiconductor laser be connected such that it is differentially driven by the differential amplifier. That is clearly not the case in Link. The examiner addresses this shortcoming by stating that “as all claimed circuit components and characteristics have been disclosed by Link, operation of the circuit in either AC or DC conditions would inherently result in the given outputs” but this is untrue. In particular, there is no output of the differential amplifier DC coupled to one side of the laser. In attempting to read the language of claim 1 on Link, the examiner has identified the Vcc connection to transistor Q2 as a first output of the differential amplifier, but this cannot be. The supply voltage does not change, regardless of what the amplifier does, so this cannot be reasonably considered an “output” of the differential amplifier. The Vcc connection is a supply voltage *input*, not an output.

With respect to claim 11, that claim clearly recites the semiconductor laser as being either differentially or single-ended depending on the output of the amplifier. Link does not and cannot at any time drive the laser differentially.

The rejection of claims 1, 2, 7 and 11 for anticipation by Misaizu et al is traversed. The arguments of traversal are the same as above in the context of Link, since in this rejection as well the examiner has been forced to consider the supply voltage input to the amplifier as a claimed amplifier output. No one of ordinary skill in the art could possibly read the claim that way, so there is simply no basis for the examiner to do so.

Request For Reconsideration
USSN 10/760,397

The rejections of claims 3, 5, 6 and 8-10 for unpatentability are traversed. The cited art does not teach the subject matter of the parent claims 1 and 9 for the reasons discussed above.

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATION OF ELECTRONIC FILING TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that the above identified correspondence is being electronically transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office on December 7, 2007

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